trouble you for."

sure of another, it was possible that

Garcia, who had already betrayed the

count, might now betray Sallie-assum-

But Sallie, if she felt uneasiness,

gether once more and the maid reap-

as to Garcia's part in the affair.

patrician mannered beauty.

you can save her, ruin me, and do your-

Garcia turned to the count and gave

never find her. Attempt no such folly.

She cannot survive indefinitely in her

frankly and cordially all might have

been settled by this time. Of course you know that Garcia alone can awaken Olympia from her trance, and that he

has only to refrain from awakening her

to cause her death. Are you satisfied?

or is there any other person you would like to see and question?'

"What do you want?" demanded the count; "I am at your service."
"After all, think what you are doing."

Sallie said. "Why not let the girl die and forget her? There are many others

in the world more beautiful and desir

able. Will you for the sake of this frail

creature, who may die next week in any

case, put yourself absolutely in the

power of your worst enemy? Think bet-ter of it, Count de Lisle."

"I entreat you to have some mercy!"

mercy! This is a new role, indeed, for

him to play," she exclaimed, in mock

admiration. "Did you not tell me half

an hour ago that you were a desperate man-with a revolver, too! And you entreat me-Sallie Matchin-the forger

the murderess, the courtesan who buys

men with her favors-you entreat me

for mercy! Where is your self respect.

"Garcia, will you do nothing?"
"Oh, this is too bad!" exclaimed Sallie.

You ought to be protected against your-

self! You are excited, and don't realize

what you are about. I haven't the heart

am sure to be convicted, and then you

lead, but what of that! The world will

be at your feet. Your path will be clear.

not escape you if I would. Will not the

pleasure of witnessing my death agony compensate you for a sentimental pang

my dear count?"

"The Count de Lisle entreats me for

is?" said the count.

present state."



A pen was put in his hand, and he affixed his signature to each document, "You mustn't expect from me any attempt to return you an equivalent for your hospitality," remarked Sallie, as she gracefully began the brewing of the tea. "I haven't the material nor the ingenuity. There is not so much as an assassin on the premises, not to speak of magic mirrors and oriental enchanters, and beautiful specters. By the way, that

"You must ask Garcia," replied the count, quietly, as one who had made up judge for yourself. It is your doubt of his mind to endure up to a certain point, and then no more.

was a wenderfully elever trick. How

"Do you think Garcia would tell me any secret of yours?" said Sallie. She gave the question a flavor of arch surney of expectation. After all, why had Garcia left him? He began to surmise a possible reason, but he said only, "I have always found him a useful man. Of course I know he has his weaknesses."

"Yes; so have we all," she replied.
"Even the Count de Lisle has weaknesses. And yet, it seems to me, were I in your place I would have none. No man ever had a greater opportunity than you. If you stood for yourself alone, what could you not do? No one could attack another cup for herself, flavored it, yon. You could buy friends, police, tasted it, altered it, and finally, when it juries, judges and legislatures. You suited her, drank it, just as the door You suited her, drank it, just as the door could make laws and elect rulers. You opened to admit Garcia. could yourself be the real ruler of this country and hold the balance of power in the world. With genius and purpose and such wealth as yours all that would not be impossible. But, then, you must make sacrifices. You must be solitary. If you give your confidence to a friend or your heart to a woman you are vulnerable and can be overthrown. When ditions of mine I will have the girl killed. I first learned who and what you were I The count has been kind to you. You feared you. Here is a man, I said to myself, who, from having a rope around kind. Have you the heart to let that his neck, has risen to power incalcu- poor innocent girl perish, when by a word lable. The world has done its worst to him; he will have his revenge upon the world. The iron has entered into his plainly and relieve his suspense." soul, and now his soul will be like iron. He must be obeyed, for he can enforce obedience. But when I heard," continued Sallie, suddenly changing from this serious vein to a light and bantering tone, "that the Count de Lisle was in fear him so much. To have attempted | carry it out if you defy her." means that had obtained you your wealth would have been a desperate enterprise. Even robbers and murderers, if they be strong and resolute enough, need fear sothing. But to have given your heart

"And you? Are you impregnable?" "Only in so far that if I saw my way to accomplish what I supremely desire I would let nothing deter me. I was an innocent little girl once, but even then I had strong desires, and without any opportunity to carry them out. I made some serious mistakes, and suffered from them, but I had had my way, and I found that most failures in this world are due to not having been unscrupulous enough. It needs courage to begin, but when you discover what it is to be without scruples you wonder why anybody is controlled by them. They are the great slaveholders of the human race. But I was going to say that I should be willing to put in your hands any evidence against myself that you might re-quire for my destruction rather than forego the purpose I have in view."

to a girl-that was another matter! You

could be reached through her."

"What is your purpose?"
"The poets say that love is lord of all, you know. I have had my doubts of that, and I want you to settle them. You think you love Olympia Raven. How much would you be willing to sac-rifice to save her life?"

"That is a hypothetical question. I could answer it only after I was made certain that her life was in danger." "Whether she lives or dies depends upon the result of this interview. She is in my power—as the people in melodrama say. What becomes of her depends on my will."

The count, who had been sitting with his elbows on his knees and his eyes lowered, looked up, and his glance and Sallie's met. What she saw in his mind sent a quick flush to her face. For a moment she held her breath. No soldier in battle was ever nearer death than Sallie then. But she had a resolute heart, and when she drew her breath again it was with a smile.

to take advantage of you. Take my advice: Have me arrested for my crimes; I "Do you always carry a revolver?" she are rid of me forever. Olympia will be said. "We are alone in the house, except my maid. I could have protected There will be no limit to your ambition myself, but I am sufficiently protecte. Come, be a man! Say the word! Here I am, ready for the scaffold. I could by circumstances. It has been arranged that if anything happens to me Olympia

will not long survive me." "Have we not had enough of this?" asked he. "Do you really expect me to accept your statements as facts?"

"That is enough," interposed Garcia "I might leave you to suffer the conse gloomily. "He cannot suffer any more Get the papers and let him sign them quence of not accepting them. But 1 vish to spare you the pain of uncertainty You have had your amusement." if I can. Let me see. What can I do? He spoke with an air of authority Would you like to see something of hers? that gave a new aspect to his mysterious character. The man seemed to change Did you not give her an engagement ring? And did she not wear it on the his individuality as easily as ordinary evening when you last saw her?"

men change their clothes. He shrugged his shoulders. "I have "Well," said Sallie with a sigh, "what given her many things—no doubt a ring, among others. She might have lost it, and it might have been picked up; I Solomon said is true, 'Though you bray a fool in a mortar, yet will not his folly depart from him? I will get the papers Meanwhile do you tell him the purport

"At any rate, I will restore it to you," said Sallie. "It is not mine, and since she no longer wears it you should have the charge of it." She left the room, and Garcia turned to the count, who sat white and trem

So saying, she drew the box toward her, opened it and took out a ring. It was a black diamond in an antique setting. It was one of the jewels that had been contained in Napoleon's treasure casket, and the count had given it to Olympia as the pledge of their betrothal. Such another ring did not exist in the world. He knew that Olympia would never willingly let it leave her finger. bling in his chair.
"You are to be brought back to the station in life from which you rose," said he. "The deeds which you are to sign transfers your property to others You will execute a paper stating your true name and confessing that you are the murderer of Harry Trent. This will be used against you in case you should at tempt to recover what you have sur rendered. In other words, your life as never willingly let it leave her finger. The proof that the worst was true was well as your fortune will hereafter be at the disposal of this woman. Are you complete. He slipped the ring on his own finger, and said, "Well?"

'Well, then, I return to my question," "If Olympia is saved I am content said Sallie, leaning back and stirring her tea. "What would you be willing to sacrifice to save her life?" answered the other.
"She will be conveyed this afternoon

"She will be conveyed this afternoon to your house on Long Island," said Gar cia. "You will go there not earlier than five o'clock. Tomorrow you and she will leave this country, never to return Your departure will be satisfactorily accounted for. Such are the conditions Do you clearly understand and unre-"I see no reason why I should discuss the question with you," said the count. "I prefer to deal with those who have the immediate charge of her. I understand your plot, and that I am to blame etand your plot, and that I am to blame for the success of it. I allowed Gurcia to obtain hypnotic control over her. You won the poor creature to your service, by means it is easy to surmisel and pre-vailed upon him to use his power to draw her into your hands. But Garcia, havservedly accept them?"
[TO BE CONTINUED. See change in Kabrich's adver-

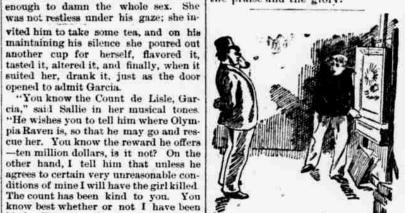
man of the Ways and Means Committee, and that a conserative policy will be adopted by Speaker Crisp vor-promised him for his act, is now in and his followers. "In which a condition to bring forth fruits of reevent," said Mr. Norton, "the Wespentance. I shall find means to induce him to give me the information that I tern contingent will be generally require. As for you, you have already supplied all the information I care to sive policy the only true one. The appointment of Mr. Springer as These words were slowly and deliberately spoken, while his eyes were steadily fixed upon her face. He was taking a Committee is received with regret final chance, with such imperturbability as he could command. And, indeed, since it was true, as Sallie had herself by the Democrats. said, that no human being can be quite

Congressman Dick Norton Says He

From the St. Louis Chronicle

Elder W. R. Wigginton, who i

now in his 73rd year, and a citizen ing that the count was right in his guess of Centralia, Mo, has resided in Boone and the adjoining county, showed none. She clapped her hands to-Audrain, for fifty years and three months, during which time he served as Pastor to 18 churches, two of "Step over to the corner," said her mistress, "and tell Mr. Garcia I want this number 22 years, to another 19 years without change of Pastor. the 16 from one to ten years each ; after the count heard the street door has been favored with an unanimous "I am sensitive on some points," Sallie observed, "and you hurt my feelings. 1 call from each church. He has am building no house of cards, Count de | baptized he thinks over one thousand Lisle; I am perfectly in earnest, and I am not so childish as to attempt to fight you persons, assisted in the ordination of with shadows—as you fought me? As to 12 or 13 ministers, also assisted in your insinuation about my purchase of the organization of 10 or 12 your friend, I will not deny it; you shall churches; has united in marriage my intelligence that galls me—not, of about 600 persons. At this writing course, the other insult!" he is the oldest Baptist preacher in The count made no reply. The point the above named counties, and had been passed with him where words that were not also acts seemed worth longer than any preacher of any prise that sent the count on a swift jour- uttering. He continued to gaze with a denomination, except Eld. Mans certain gloomy curiosity at Sallie. In certain gloomy curiosity at Sallie. In heart more savage and cruel than a wild heart more savage and cruel than a wild Marion Ma beast, in morality a Faustina—and all Mexico, Mo., and he says if any this incarnated in gentle, low voiced, good has been accomplished through Sirens in Tophet must be like her: his instrumentality, give to God and that she was a woman was almost the praise and the glory.



Not an Expert. "Ah! That an original ideapin-wheel in motion."

"Pin-wheel, sir! That is a sun-

him a dark, indifferent look, as if there were in him no instinct of human broth-Dr. J. E. Dunbar, the eye and ear specialist stopped over to see "You had better do as she wishes," he his friend Charley Eagon, of the said in a cold tone. "She has the power love and about to be married I did not to do what she threatens, and she will Windsor, who was lately married. Mr. Dunbar says that he has known Chaley all his life and that he has "Yes; I charmed her there. You can never known a more clever gentle-

> Work Has Begun. Howard County Advertiser.

"What do you mean by that?" said the Now that Bob White got in his count, with a note of horror in his voice. work and will have the next meet-"She has been in the trance from the first," replied Garcia. "She is of a delicate erganization, and she is sinking tion in Mexico, let him get to work on his kite-shaped track. "You see, my dear count," said Sallie with a soft laugh, "how injudicious you were to distrust me. If you had met me



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still all right, he has not had any of the ssince about March 28th. The people can
believe it from the fact that he had as ma
n day or more. I believe he was a very n
child all his life but did not show any sspasms until last December, after who
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picture a reproduction will be found

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have returned to Mexico, where

they have a host of friends, to re-

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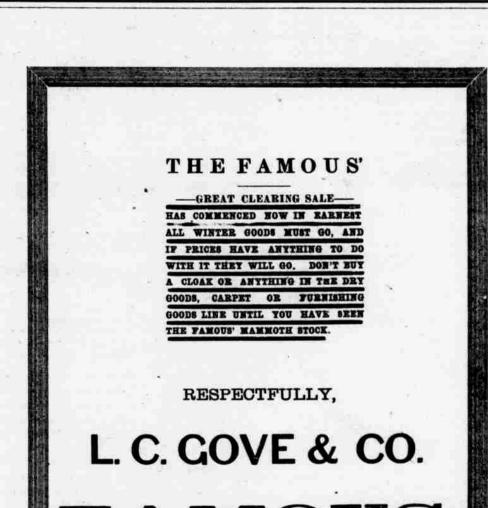
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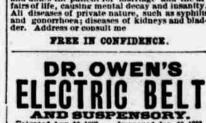
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